CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   An electronic device comprising:

a detection circuit to detect whether a predetermined device is within a predetermined proximity of the electronic device; and

a control circuit to cause the electronic device to be in a first state when the predetermined device is within the predetermined proximity and to cause the electronic device to be in a second state when the predetermined device is not within the predetermined proximity.

2.   The electronic device of claim 1 wherein the first state comprises a normal operating state.

3.   The electronic device of claim 2 wherein the second state comprises a lower power state.

4.   The electronic device of claim 2 wherein the second state comprises a locked state to deny access to the electronic device when the electronic device is in the second state.

5.   The electronic device of claim 1 wherein the predetermined device comprises a transmitter to transmit wireless signals and the detector comprises a receiver to receive the wireless signals from the predetermined device.

1   6.   The electronic device of claim 1 further comprising a transmitter to transmit

2   wireless signals to the predetermined device, wherein the predetermined device comprises a

3   reflective device to reflect the wireless signals to the detection circuit.

1   7.   An identification device comprising a transmitter to transmit wireless signals to

2   an electronic device, the wireless signals to identify the identification device to the electronic

3   device, the wireless signals further to be used by the electronic device to determine whether the

4   identification device is within a predetermined proximity to the electronic device such that the

5   electronic device is in a first state when the identification device is within the predetermined

6   proximity and the electronic device is in a second state when the identification device is not

7   within the predetermined proximity.

1   8.   The identification device of claim 7 wherein the first state comprises a normal

2   operating state.

1   9.   The identification device of claim 8 wherein the second state comprises a lower

2   power state.

1   10.   The identification device of claim 8 wherein the second state comprises a locked

2   state to deny access to the electronic device when the electronic device is in the second state.

1   11.   A method comprising:

2   determining whether a predetermined device is within a predetermined proximity of an

3   electronic device;

4   causing the electronic device to be in a first state when the predetermined device is within

5   the predetermined proximity of the electronic device; and

6   causing the electronic device to be in a second state when the predetermined device is not

7   within the predetermined proximity of the electronic device.

1   12.   The method of claim 11 wherein the first state comprises a normal operating state.

       13.   The method of claim 12 wherein the second state comprises a lower power state.

       14.   The method of claim 12 wherein the second state comprises a locked state to deny

       access to the electronic device when the electronic device is in the second state.

       15.   The method of claim 11 wherein determining whether the predetermined device is

       within the predetermined proximity to the electronic device further comprises:

3   transmitting a wireless signal;

4   detecting whether the wireless signal is reflected by the predetermined device;

5   determining, from the reflected signal, whether the predetermined device is within the

6   predetermined proximity to the electronic device.

1   16.   The method of claim 11 wherein determining whether the predetermined device is

2   within the predetermined proximity to the electronic device further comprises:

3   transmitting a wireless signal;

4   detecting whether an acknowledge signal is transmitted by the predetermined device in

5   response to the wireless signal; and

6   determining, from the acknowledge signal, whether the predetermined device is within

7   the predetermined proximity to the electronic device.

1   17.   The method of claim 11 wherein determining whether the predetermined device is

2   within the predetermined proximity to the electronic device further comprises:

3   detecting a signal transmitted by the predetermined device; and

4   determining, from the signal, whether the predetermined device is within the

5   predetermined proximity to the electronic device.

1   18.   An article comprising a machine-accessible medium providing access to

2   sequences of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more

3   processors to:

4   determine whether a predetermined device is within a predetermined proximity of an

5   electronic device;

6   cause the electronic device to be in a first state when the predetermined device is within

7   the predetermined proximity of the electronic device; and

8   cause the electronic device to be in a second state when the predetermined device is not

9   within the predetermined proximity of the electronic device.

1   19.   The article of claim 18 wherein the first state comprises a normal operating state.

1   20.   The article of claim 19 wherein the second state comprises a lower power state.

1   21.   The article of claim 19 wherein the second state comprises a locked state to deny

2   access to the electronic device when the electronic device is in the second state.

1   22.   The article of claim 18 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or

2   more processors to determine whether the predetermined device is within the predetermined

3   proximity to the electronic device further comprises sequences of instructions that, when

4   executed, cause the one or more processors to:

5   transmit a wireless signal;

6   detect whether the wireless signal is reflected by the predetermined device;

7   determine, from the reflected signal, whether the predetermined device is within the

8   predetermined proximity to the electronic device.

1   23.   The article of claim 18 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or

2   more processors to determine whether the predetermined device is within the predetermined

3   proximity to the electronic device further comprises sequences of instructions that, when

4   executed, cause the one or more processors to:

5   transmit a wireless signal;

6   detect whether an acknowledge signal is transmitted by the predetermined device in

7   response to the wireless signal; and

8   determine, from the acknowledge signal, whether the predetermined device is within the

9   predetermined proximity to the electronic device.

1   24.   The article of claim 18 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or

2   more processors to determine whether the predetermined device is within the predetermined

3   proximity to the electronic device further comprises sequences of instructions that, when

4   executed, cause the one or more processors to:

5   detect a signal transmitted by the predetermined device; and

6   determine, from the signal, whether the predetermined device is within the predetermined

7   proximity to the electronic device.

       25.   A method comprising:

             detecting when a predetermined device enters a predetermined region with respect to an

       electronic device; and

             causing the electronic device to boot up in response to the predetermined device entering

       the predetermined region.

1   26.   The method of claim 25 wherein determining when the predetermined device

2   enters the predetermined region with respect to the electronic device further comprises:

3   transmitting a wireless signal;

4   detecting whether the wireless signal is reflected by the predetermined device;

5   determining, from the reflected signal, whether the predetermined device is within the

6   predetermined region with respect to the electronic device.

1   27.   The method of claim 25 wherein determining when the predetermined device

2   enters the predetermined region with respect to the electronic device further comprises:

3   transmitting a wireless signal;

4   detecting whether an acknowledge signal is transmitted by the predetermined device in

5   response to the wireless signal; and

6   determining, from the acknowledge signal, whether the predetermined device is within

7   the predetermined region with respect to the electronic device.

1   28.   The method of claim 25 wherein determining when the predetermined device

2   enters the predetermined region with respect to the electronic device further comprises:

3   detecting a signal transmitted by the predetermined device; and

4   determining, from the signal, whether the predetermined device is within the

5   predetermined region to the electronic device.

1   29.   An article comprising a machine-accessible medium to provide access to

2   sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause one or more electronic devices to:

3   detect when a predetermined device enters a predetermined region with respect to at least

4   one of the one or more electronic device; and

5   cause the electronic device to boot up in response to the predetermined device entering

6   the predetermined region.

1   30.   The article of claim 25 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or

2   more electronic devices to determine when the predetermined device enters the predetermined

3   region with respect to the electronic device further comprises sequences of instructions that,

4   when executed, cause the one or more electronic devices to:

5   transmit a wireless signal;

6   detect whether the wireless signal is reflected by the predetermined device;

7   determine, from the reflected signal, whether the predetermined device is within the

8   predetermined region with respect to the electronic device.

1   31.   The article of claim 25 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or

2   more electronic devices to determine when the predetermined device enters the predetermined

3   region with respect to the electronic device further comprises sequences of instructions that,

4   when executed, cause the one or more electronic devices to:

5   transmit a wireless signal;

6   detect whether an acknowledge signal is transmitted by the predetermined device in

7   response to the wireless signal; and

8   determine, from the acknowledge signal, whether the predetermined device is within the

9   predetermined region with respect to the electronic device.

1   32.   The article of claim 25 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or

2   more electronic devices to determine when the predetermined device enters the predetermined

3   region with respect to the electronic device further comprises sequences of instructions that,

4   when executed, cause the one or more electronic devices to:

5   detect a signal transmitted by the predetermined device; and

6   determine, from the signal, whether the predetermined device is within the predetermined

7   region to the electronic device.

1   33.   An electronic device comprising:

2   a detector that detects when a predetermined device is within a predetermined range of

3   the electronic device; and

4   a control circuit that causes the electronic device to boot up in response to the

5   predetermined device entering the predetermined range.

34.   The electronic device of claim 33 wherein the predetermined device comprises a

transmitter to transmit wireless signals and the detector comprises a receiver to receive the

wireless signals from the predetermined device.

35.   The electronic device of claim 33 further comprising a transmitter to transmit

wireless signals to the predetermined device, wherein the predetermined device comprises a

3   reflective device to reflect the wireless signals to the detection circuit.